

# 2006 Deer Hunt Season Structure and Tagging FAQ's

Every year, wildlife biologists review deer harvest histories and compare them to management goals for each Deer Management Unit (DMU) to determine recommendations for the hunting season structure of the DMU. The Natural Resources Board then, either approves the recommendations or makes changes, and decides the season structure at their meeting in March.

Outside of the Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) zone, there are **three potential types of season structures**: **REGULAR**, **HERD CONTROL (formerly Zone-T)**, and **EARN-A-BUCK**.

## **REGULAR UNITS**

Some DMU's have deer populations at or near goal and antlerless harvest during the regular 9-day gun season (along with the archery and muzzleloader season) is sufficient to manage the population. These DMU's are referred to as **REGULAR** units, because the **regular 9-day gun season structure** is the primary gun hunting opportunity. A limited number of **Unit Specific Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags** are available in **REGULAR** units, which allows a hunter to harvest an antlerless deer in those units. Harvesting a limited number of antlerless deer maintains a DMU's population near established goals. **Unit Specific Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags in REGULAR units are the first herd management tool we use. In 2006, a 4-day antlerless only statewide December hunt will occur in all DMU's including REGULAR units. Those with Unit Specific Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags in REGULAR units may participate. Unit Specific Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags will be made available on a first come, first serve basis beginning at noon on Saturday, August 26.**

## **HERD CONTROL UNITS** (formerly called Zone-T units)

Additional gun and archery hunting of antlerless deer is necessary in **HERD CONTROL** units to reduce the deer population and move it toward goal. These **HERD CONTROL** units need more harvest pressure on antlerless deer through additional gun and archery deer hunting opportunities, along with a free and additional \$2.00 **Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags**.

**The 4-day antlerless only deer hunt held statewide in December, is an additional gun hunting opportunity which increases antlerless harvest and hunter opportunity. In addition to this antlerless hunt, one free Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag is issued with each Gun and/or Archery Deer License (two free tags with each Patron License) for use in Herd Control units. Additional Herd Control Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags can be purchased for \$2.00 for use during any open season in Herd Control units. HERD CONTROL seasons reduce deer populations in areas where they are well over goal and a REGULAR season structure is not likely to keep populations near goal (based on harvest histories). This is the second herd management tool and is often a very effective at maintaining population goals.**

## **EARN-A-BUCK UNITS**

**The EARN-A-BUCK (EAB) season structure is an additional layer of population management. EAB is a more restrictive season structure, but it is also a more effective method of population control. This season structure requires the hunter to first tag an antlerless deer before being allowed**

to tag an antlered deer. The EAB season structure also incorporates the free Herd Control Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags and the 4-day statewide December antlerless only deer hunt which allow for additional antlerless deer hunting opportunity. Hunters may also pre-qualify to harvest or tag a buck by registering an antlerless deer in a HERD CONTROL unit the season before that unit becomes an EAB unit.

NOTE: This season structure is only recommended if a DMU has had at least two years of consecutive HERD CONTROL seasons, which failed to reduce the population to near goal and if another non-EAB season is not likely to do so.

### YOUTH HUNT

In addition to the above season structures, there will be a 2-day statewide either sex gun deer hunt October 7 & 8 for youth ages 12-15.\* Each youth must be accompanied by an adult. The participating youth is required to have a Gun Deer License and must possess a valid carcass tag for the type of deer harvested. The Gun Buck Deer Carcass Tag is only valid for a buck deer.\*\* The free Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag which comes with each deer license is only valid in Herd Control and EAB units. Those youth in Regular units must purchase a Unit Specific Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag if they wish to harvest an antlerless deer. Gun Buck Deer Carcass Tags are not valid for either sex deer for first time Hunter Education Graduates. Adults accompanying youth during the two day youth hunt are not allowed to hunt deer with a firearm during the 2-day youth gun deer hunt.

\*Firearm deer hunting will be allowed west of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad during this statewide youth hunt.

\*\*Youth hunting in EAB units must tag an antlerless deer prior to being authorized to harvest a buck with their Gun Buck Deer Carcass Tag. In non-CWD units, each youth may only harvest or tag one buck and shall use their Gun Buck Deer Carcass Tag for that purpose.

### STATE PARK HUNTING

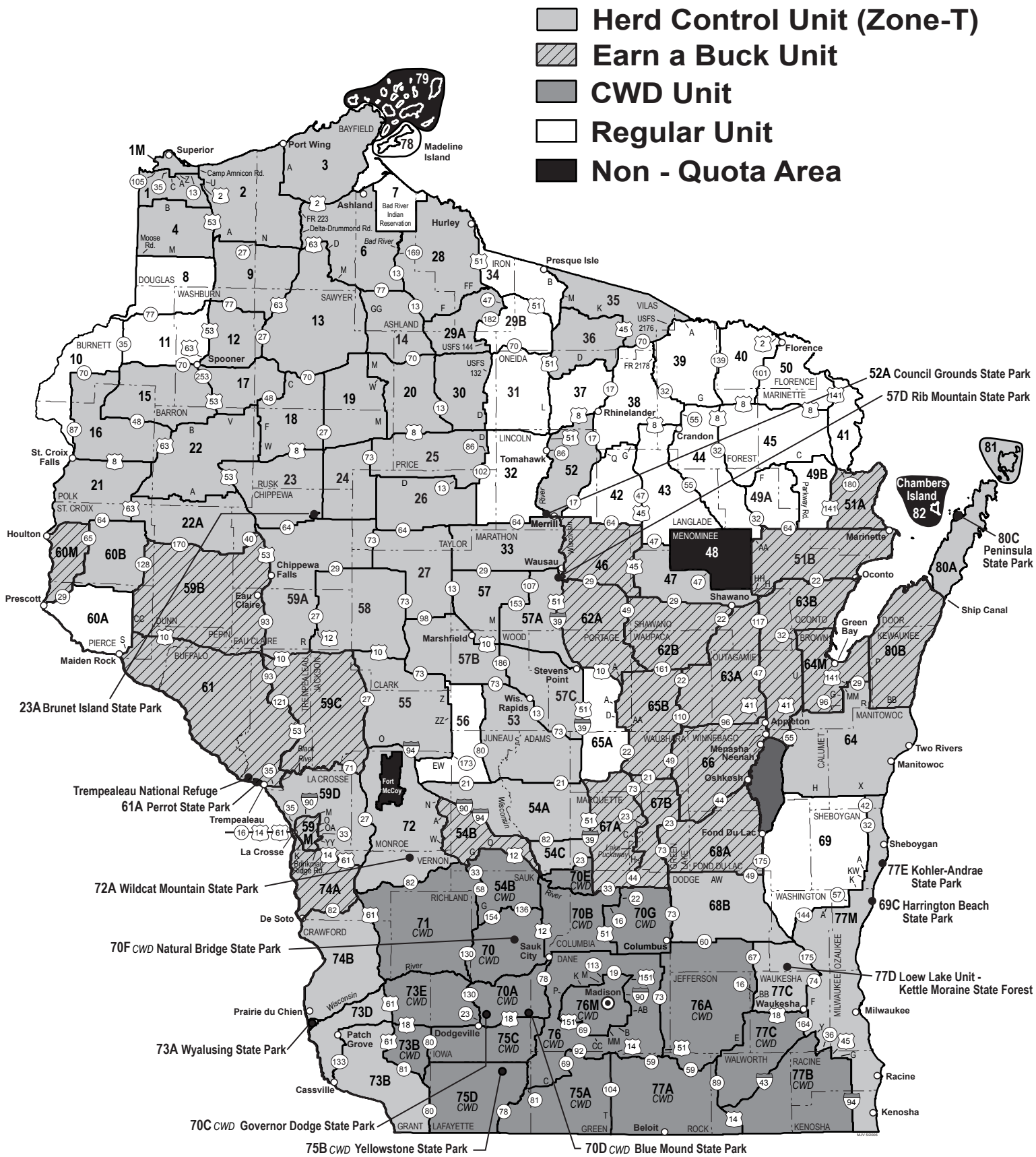
This year admittance to State Parks with limited permits will be done on a first come, first serve basis. No consideration will be given based on previous preference point status. Permits for State Park hunting in those parks with limited access will go on sale on Saturday, August, 26 at noon. State parks with limited hunting access include Brunet Island State Park (23A), Council Grounds State Park (52A), Rib Mountain State Park (57D), Perrot State Park (61A), Harrington Beach State Park (69C), Wildcat Mountain State Park (72A), Wyalusing State Park (73A), Loew Lake Unit of Kettle Moraine State Forest (77D), Kohler-Andrae State Park (77E), and Peninsula State Park (80C).

### CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE (CWD) ZONE:

**NOTE: CWD rules for 2006 are currently under legislative review and are not yet final.**

The proposed hunting seasons in those DMU's which are within the CWD zones would have an either sex season. The statewide 4-day antlerless only December hunt would not pertain to the CWD zones. Either sex could be harvested in the CWD zones during this time. All carcass tags would be valid for either sex in the CWD zones.

## 2006 Deer Season Structure



**Antlerless Deer  
Carcass Tag**

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Valid only in the  
following unit(s):

**Herd Control & EAB**

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See Deer Management Unit Map in  
Deer Regulation Book

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Slit Month/Date/Time (AM/PM) of kill  
and attach to Ear(or Antler)

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**JOHN TEST SMITH**  
WI CUST # 999-912-348

**2006**

Tran #022116320 Expires: March 31, 2007

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 AM PM

**1. Where can I use this tag?**

This Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag is only valid in Herd Control (Zone-T) and Earn-A-Buck units (including CWD units). It is not valid in Regular or non-quota units.

**2. What can I harvest with this tag?**

This carcass tag is only valid for tagging one antlerless deer. (Can be used on a deer of either sex in CWD units)

**3. What weapon can I use?**

The Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag is not weapon specific. You may use it to tag an antlerless deer killed with legal archery equipment with a valid Archery License or a firearm (including muzzleloaders) with a valid Gun Deer License during the respective open seasons.

**4. Where/how can I get these tags?**

One is issued free with each deer license (so individuals will receive two free antlerless tags if they purchase both the Archery and Gun Deer License or are a Conservation Patron). Additional Herd Control and EAB Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags are available at any DNR license vendor (including online at [www.dnr.wi.gov](http://www.dnr.wi.gov) or by phone) for \$2.00 each for residents and non-residents.

**5. How many Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags can I obtain?**

There are an unlimited number of antlerless tags for Herd Control (Zone-T) and EAB units and hunters can obtain as many Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags as they wish for \$2.00 each.

**6. Is this carcass tag valid in CWD units as well?**

Yes. A CWD unit is the only place this tag may be used to tag a buck.

**7. Is this tag valid in Regular units?**

No.

Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag	
Valid only in the following unit(s):	
Unit: 1	
See Deer Management Unit Map in Deer Regulation Book	
Slit Month/Date/Time (AM/PM) of kill and attach to Ear(or Antler)	
JOHN TEST SMITH WI CUST # 999-912-348	
Tran #022116320	
Expires: March 31, 2007	
2006	

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

1 AM 2 PM 3 PM 4 PM 5 PM 6 PM 7 PM 8 PM 9 PM 10 PM 11 PM 12 AM 1 PM 2 PM 3 PM 4 PM 5 PM 6 PM 7 PM 8 PM 9 PM 10 PM 11 PM 12 AM

**1. Where can I use this tag?**

This Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag is only valid in the unit specified on the tag or in any CWD unit. For example, this sample tag is only valid for an antlerless deer in unit 1 or for either sex anywhere in the CWD zone. It is not valid in Herd Control or EAB units.

**2. What can I harvest with this tag?**

This carcass tag is valid for tagging one antlerless deer only in the unit specified. (Can be used on a deer of either sex in CWD units).

**3. Which weapon can I use this carcass tag with?**

The Unit Specific Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag is not weapon specific. You may use it to tag an antlerless deer killed with legal archery equipment, with a valid Archery License, or a firearm (including muzzleloaders), with a valid Gun License during the respective open seasons.

**4. How do I obtain a unit specific antlerless carcass tag?**

All Unit Specific Antlerless Deer Carcass Tags will be made available at any DNR license vendor (including online at [www.dnr.wi.gov](http://www.dnr.wi.gov) or by phone) on a first come, first serve basis. These antlerless permits will go on sale at noon on Saturday August 26, 2006. Unit Specific Antlerless Tags are \$12.00 for residents and \$20.00 for non-residents and can be purchased at a rate of one per hunter per day, until sold out.

**5. How many antlerless permits are available for my unit?**

Availability of permits depends on the antlerless quota for each specific unit. Permit availability per unit is accessible at [www.dnr.wi.gov](http://www.dnr.wi.gov).

**6. Is this carcass tag valid in CWD units as well?**

Yes. In CWD units, this tag is valid for either sex. This is the only time it may be used to tag a buck



**1. Where/how can I use this carcass tag?**

This either sex carcass tag is valid in any unit, statewide during an open archery season. It is valid for either a buck or an antlerless deer harvested with legal archery equipment;

**EXCEPT:**

- In EAB units, a buck authorization must accompany this tag to validate it. A buck authorization must be attached to this carcass tag to make it valid for a buck in any EAB unit, or the buck deer tagged with this tag must be accompanied by an antlerless deer tagged with a valid antlerless deer tag by the same hunter until they are both registered.
- The tag is not valid for either-sex during the 4-day statewide antlerless hunt December 7-10. Only antlerless deer may be harvested during this season.

Archery Either Sex Deer Carcass Tag	
Valid only in the following unit(s):	
ANY UNIT STATEWIDE	
See Deer Management Unit Map in Deer Regulation Book	
Slit Month/Date/Time (AM/PM) of kill and attach to Ear(or Antler)	
JOHN TEST SMITH WI CUST # 999-912-348	
Tran #022116320	
2006	
Expires: March 31, 2007	
Jan	1
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**This carcass tag is the only archery tag valid for a buck.**

**2. What is this carcass tag valid for in a Regular unit?**

In a Regular unit, this carcass tag is valid for a deer of either sex during the archery season, except during the December 4-day antlerless gun deer hunt, when only antlerless deer may be harvested.

**3. How can this carcass tag be used in a Herd Control unit?**

In a Herd Control unit, this carcass tag is valid for a deer of either sex, except during the December 4-day antlerless gun deer hunt, when only antlerless deer may be harvested.

**4. Is this carcass tag valid in EAB units?**

Yes, however, in EAB units, this carcass tag is valid only for an antlerless deer, unless a buck authorization has been earned and attached to the tag or a legally harvested and tagged, unregistered antlerless deer, tagged by the same person, accompanies the buck until both are registered. During the December 4-day antlerless deer only hunt, this tag can only be used on an antlerless deer.

**5. What is this carcass tag valid for in a CWD unit?**

In CWD units, this tag is valid for a deer of either sex, harvested with legal archery equipment.

**6. Can this tag be filled with a deer harvested with a firearm?**

No. This tag is weapon specific and may not be used to tag a deer harvested with a firearm.

Archery Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag	
Valid only in the following unit(s):	
ANY UNIT STATEWIDE	
See Deer Management Unit Map in Deer Regulation Book	
Slit Month/Date/Time (AM/PM) of kill and attach to Ear	
JOHN TEST SMITH WI CUST # 959-923-210	
Tran #022052616	
Expires: March 31, 2007	
2006	
Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 AM PM

**1. Where/how can I use this carcass tag?**

This carcass tag is valid in any unit, statewide during an open archery season. It is only valid for an antlerless deer harvested with legal archery equipment with a valid Archery License.

**2. What can I harvest with this tag?**

This carcass tag is only valid for tagging one antlerless deer in any unit statewide. (Can be used on a deer of either sex in CWD units).

**3. What weapon can I use?**

The Archery Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag is weapon specific and can only be used for an antlerless deer harvested with legal archery equipment.

**4. Where/how can I get these tags?**

One is issued free with each Archery Deer License or Patron License. Hunters who were not issued this tag when they purchased their Patron or Archery License will be mailed this tag. By May 15, this tag will be issued at the point of sale for all Archery or Patron Licenses sold.

**5. Is this carcass tag valid in CWD units as well?**

Yes. In CWD units, this tag is valid for either sex.

**6. Can this tag be filled with a deer harvested with a firearm?**

No. This tag is weapon specific and may not be used to tag a deer harvested with a firearm.

**1. Where can I use this deer carcass tag?**

This tag is valid in any DMU statewide. It is valid for a buck deer harvested with a gun;

**EXCEPT:**

- In EAB units, a buck authorization must accompany this tag to validate it. A buck authorization must be attached to this carcass tag to make it valid for a buck in any EAB unit, or the buck deer tagged with this tag must be accompanied by an antlerless deer tagged with a valid antlerless deer tag by the same hunter until they are both registered.

**2. What type of deer can I harvest using this tag in a Regular unit?**

This Gun Buck Deer Tag is only valid for a buck deer in any Regular unit (except as noted in #7 below).

**3. What type of deer can I harvest in a Herd Control unit?**

This Gun Buck Deer Tag is only valid for a buck deer in any Herd Control unit.

**4. How is this tag used in an EAB unit?**

This Gun Buck Deer Carcass Tag is not valid in EAB units, **unless** a buck authorization is attached to this carcass tag, or a legally harvested unregistered antlerless deer, tagged by the same person, accompanies the buck deer until both are registered.

**5. Is this tag weapon specific?**

Yes. This tag can only be used to harvest a deer with a firearm and a valid Gun License.

**6. What is this carcass tag valid for in a CWD unit?**

This carcass tag is valid for a deer of either sex in any CWD unit.

**7. When is this Gun Buck Deer Carcass Tag valid for an antlerless deer?**

The only time the Gun Buck Deer Carcass Tag may be used to tag an antlerless deer is:

- a) When hunting in a CWD zone, where all tags are valid for a deer of either sex.
- b) When used by a hunter who holds a valid class A or C disabled permit.
- c) When used by a hunter who is a qualified member of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Gun Buck Deer Carcass Tag	
Valid only in the following unit(s):	
ANY UNIT STATEWIDE	
See Deer Management Unit Map in Deer Regulation Book	
Slit Month/Date/Time (AM/PM) of kill and attach to Ear(or Antler)	
JOHN TEST SMITH WI CUST # 999-912-348	
Tran #022116320	
Expires: March 31, 2007	
2006	
Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 AM PM



## 2006 Earn-a-Buck Unit Buck Authorization

✓ **This authorization will be sent by mail to qualified hunters.**

Earn-A-Buck authorization earned by registering an antlerless deer during the 2005 deer hunting season, in a Deer Management Unit that is designated an EAB unit in 2006. This authorization will be mailed in August to those hunters who registered an antlerless deer in 2005 in units which are now EAB in 2006.

## 2006-2007 Earn-a-Buck Unit Buck Authorization



**DNR Customer #**

\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_-  
Must be attached to back of Gun Buck Deer  
or Archery Deer Carcass Tag.

Earn-A-Buck authorization stickers earned during the 2006 deer hunting season. These stickers are earned by tagging and registering an antlerless deer in an EAB unit. These stickers can be used during the 2006 deer season in an EAB unit, or, if not used in 2006, can be used to validate the earner's buck carcass tag in 2007 if it is used in one of the units that are EAB during the 2007 deer season.

## Earn-A-Buck Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. What is Earn-A-Buck (EAB)?** Earn-A-Buck requires a hunter to tag an antlerless deer prior to being authorized to tag a buck in Deer Management Units (DMU's) where other population control measures have not been effective. EAB is a strong and effective herd control measure which increases harvest pressure on antlerless deer.
- 2. What are the requirements under EAB?** Under the EAB season structure, a hunter must first tag an antlerless deer in order to obtain the authorization that makes their Gun Buck Deer Carcass Tag or Archery Deer Either Sex Carcass Tag valid for a buck in an EAB unit.
- 3. How do I earn my buck authorization?** A hunter must tag an antlerless deer in an EAB unit in order to "earn" a buck authorization. You will be issued the buck authorization when you register an antlerless deer harvested in an EAB unit. You are also authorized to tag a buck with your Gun Buck Deer Carcass Tag or Archery Deer Either Sex Carcass Tag as soon as you have tagged an antlerless deer with a valid Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag provided the deer accompany each other until registration. You can also qualify for a buck authorization by filling an agricultural damage tag with an antlerless deer.

4. **Can I pre-qualify?** Yes, a hunter can qualify for a buck authorization prior to an EAB hunting season by registering an antlerless deer in the previous hunting season in any Herd Control DMU which is designated as an EAB unit the following season. Deer taken on agricultural shooting permits in EAB units will also pre-qualify the hunter for a buck authorization.
5. **What are the benefits of pre-qualifying?** This modification to the EAB program enables hunters to plan ahead for the next season. If the unit you hunt in could potentially be EAB in the following year, you can prepare by harvesting and registering an antlerless deer in that unit so that you are pre-qualified for a buck the following year, if EAB is approved. A list of EAB watch units can be found at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/wildlife/hunt/deer/eabwatch.htm>.
6. **How will the Department know if I earned my buck authorization?** The DNR has a new deer registration database so that if EAB is approved in any unit, we can review who registered an antlerless deer and where. These buck authorizations will then be issued before the next season to those who have pre-qualified for them in EAB units.
7. **Can I get a replacement authorization if I misplace mine?** No. Once the authorizations have been issued, it is your responsibility to keep track of them. Make sure you keep your authorization in a safe place and have your correct mailing address filed with the Department. No replacement authorizations will be issued for ones that are lost. To harvest a buck in an EAB unit, you will need to register another antlerless deer to earn a new buck sticker.
8. **If I pre-qualified, when/ how will I receive my buck authorization?** Buck authorizations will be mailed to qualifying hunters in the late summer of 2006, once season structures have been established and the database has been reviewed for pre-qualified candidates. The buck authorization will be mailed out to the address consistent with the customer ID that the antlerless deer was registered to. **Make sure your address is correct and up-to-date.**
9. **What if I harvested an antlerless deer in the CWD zone in 2005?** Antlerless deer harvested in a CWD zone are not eligible to qualify a hunter for a buck authorization since there will not be EAB in the CWD zones in 2006. However, antlerless deer harvested in the CWD zones during the 2006 season could pre-qualify a hunter for a buck authorization if there is EAB in the CWD zones in 2007.
10. **Where is my buck authorization valid?** Buck authorizations can be used to validate your Gun Buck Deer Carcass Tag or your Archery Deer Either Sex Carcass Tag and can be used during any hunting season open to harvesting a buck using the appropriate legal hunting weapon for that tag. They are valid in **ANY EAB unit** throughout the state.
11. **How many buck authorizations can I earn?** You can pre-qualify for up to two buck authorizations, one which can be used with your valid Archery License and Archery Either Sex Deer Carcass Tag and one which can be used with your valid Gun Deer License and Gun Buck Deer Carcass Tag in any EAB unit. A buck authorization can be used with either valid license and is not weapon or season specific. However, the buck authorizations are not valid during the 4-day December antlerless deer only hunt.

During the 2006 season, a buck authorization will be issued for each antlerless deer registered in all EAB units. One may be used to validate your Gun Buck Deer Carcass Tag and/or Archery Either Sex Deer Carcass Tag. Additional buck authorizations earned (over two) may not be used in the 2006-07 deer season, but can be used in any unit designated as EAB in the 2007-08 season (up to two).

- 12. Is the buck authorization weapon/ season specific?** No. It can be used with either a valid Archery License or a valid Gun License during an open season. An antlerless deer harvested with a gun or bow in an EAB unit will earn a buck authorization that can be used with either a Gun Buck Deer Carcass Tag or an Archery Deer Either Sex Carcass Tag. However, the buck authorizations are not valid during the 4-day antlerless only December hunt.
- 13. How do I use my buck authorization?** A buck authorization is required to tag a buck in an EAB unit. The buck authorization must be immediately attached to the validated carcass tag and deer upon tagging a buck in an EAB unit. Buck authorizations are not valid during antlerless only hunts.
- 14. Can I earn a buck for someone else?** Buck authorizations are non-transferable. Only those who tag and register an antlerless deer will be issued a buck authorization. Group hunting is allowed to earn or harvest a buck, but only the person who tags and registers an antlerless deer will receive the buck authorization. And only the person who has been issued a buck authorization may use it to tag a buck. It is illegal to possess a license, tag or buck authorization issued to someone else while hunting.
- 15. Do I have to pre-qualify?** No. You can harvest an antlerless deer with a valid license during an open season and earn a buck authorization for a DMU with EAB designation. You will be issued the buck authorization when you register the antlerless deer harvested in an EAB unit. After tagging an antlerless deer in the field in an EAB unit, you are immediately qualified to harvest or tag a buck provided both deer accompany one another until both are registered. In other words, you are not required to register your tagged antlerless deer before you are allowed to harvest and tag a buck.